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PATENT
4450-0384P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: Sunil TOMAR et al. Conf.: 1616 JUN 10 2004
Appl. No.: 09/660,837 Group: 2662 Technology Center 2600
Filed: September 14, 2000 Examiner: ODLAND, David
For: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR SERIAL
TRANSFERS AND SONET FRAMED DATA BETWEEN
MULTIPLE COMPONENTS OF A SONET SYSTEM

L E T T E R

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 9, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Application(s):

<u>Appl. No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
09/663,511	September 14, 2003	2662
09/661,203	September 14, 2003	2661
09/661,497	September 14, 2003	2665
09/662,681	September 15, 2000	2151

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application(s) may be deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this instant application.

Copies of cited U.S. patent application(s) (specification, claims, and the drawings) or copies of the portion(s) of the application(s) which caused it(them) to be cited, including any claims directed to such portion(s) are attached hereto.

☐ The materials in the envelope are considered trade secrets and are being submitted for consideration under MPEP § 724.

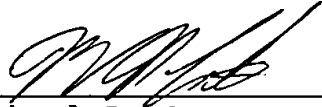
The above-listed co-pending application(s) is(are) not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed application(s) to the attention of the Examiner, Applicant(s) do(does) NOT waive any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application(s) or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if said application(s) should not mature into patents, such application(s) should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(SUBMISSION AFTER FILING OF AN APPLICATION
BUT BEFORE FINAL REJECTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
OR CONCURRENTLY WITH A RULE 1.114 RCE APPLICATION)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 9, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on the PTO-1449(s), attached hereto.

II. COPIES (check at least one box)

- a. ☒ This application was filed before June 30, 2003. Accordingly, submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- b. ☐ This application was filed on or after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications therefore are not included. Copies of foreign

patent documents and non-patent literature are included.

- c. ☐ Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should already be in the PTO file. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE
(check at least one box)

- a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The patents, publications, or other information listed on the attached PTO 1449 are in the English language and therefore, do not require a statement of relevancy.

- b. ☐ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

- c. ☐ **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

- d. ☐ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEEs

IV. ☐ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):
(check one box)

- a. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or statement is required. (This section is not to be used with RCE's.)
- b. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or statement is required.
- c. ☐ concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114 (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4)). No fee or statement is required.
- d. ☐ before the mailing date of a first Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or statement is required.
In the event that a first Office Action on the merits has been issued, please consider this IDS under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and see the statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) below, or, if no statement has been made, charge our deposit account in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

V. ☒ THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):
(check one box)

before the mailing date of a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1)) or before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2)).

- a. ☒ No statement; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
or
- b. ☐ See the statement below. No fee is required.

VI. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby states that

- a. ☐ each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 30 days prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- b. ☐ each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or
- c. ☐ no item of information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS.
- d. ☐ Some of the items of information were cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office. As to this information, the undersigned states that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby states that no item of this remaining information contained in the IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the best of my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

VII. PAYMENT OF FEES (check one box)

- ☒ A check in the amount of \$180.00 as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed for the above-identified fee.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for the above-indicated fee. A triplicate copy of this paper is attached.
- ☐ No fee is required.


If the Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Michael R. Cammarata, #39,491

GR
MRC/JWR/kpc

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment(s): ☒ PTO-1449
☒ Documents
☐ Foreign Search Report
☒ Fee
☐ Other:

(Rev. 05/14/2004)

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
4450-0384PAPPLICATION NO.
09/661,203APPLICANT
Sunil TOMAR et al.FILING DATE
September 14, 2000GROUP
2662**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 4,224,473		09/1980	Kaul et al.			
	US 4,637,012		01/1987	Crabbe, Jr., Edwin			
	US 4,717,914		01/1998	Scott, Paul H.			
	US 4,924,464		05/1990	Baylock, Gerald A.			
	US 5,040,170		08/1991	Upp et al.			
	US 5,159,595		10/1992	Flanagan et al.			
	US 5,311,511		05/1994	Reilly et al.			
	US 5,581,566		12/1996	St. John et al.			
	US 5,793,770		08/1998	St. John et al.			
	US 5,805,088		09/1998	Butter et al.			
	US 5,878,039		09/1999	Gorshe et al.			
	US 6,414,966		07/2002	Kulkarni et al.			
	US 6,427,179		07/2002	Amrany et al.			
	US 6,442,178		08/2002	Arato et al.			
	US 6,470,033		10/2002	Menzi et al.			
	US 6,597,214		07/2003	Singh et al.			
	US 6,636,529		10/2003	Goodman et al.			
	US 6,658,074		12/2003	Murakami			
	US 5,867,495		02/1999	Peres et al			
	US 6,047,002		04/2000	Hartmann et al.			

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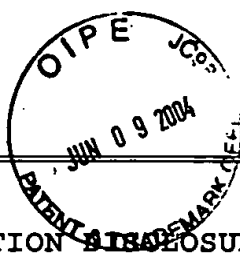
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Office	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
								YES	NO
		0223943		03/21/2002	WIPO				
		0223941		03/21/2002	WIPO				
		0223790		03/21/2002	WIPO				
		0223774		03/21/2002	WIPO				
		0223777		03/21/2002	WIPO				
	EP	1 030 533 A1		08/23/2000	Europe				

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Form PTO-1449

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(Use several sheets if necessary)

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4450-0384PAPPLICATION NO.
09/660,837APPLICANT
Sunil TOMAR et al.FILING DATE
September 14, 2000GROUP
2662**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 5,436,890		07/25/1995	Read et al.			
	US 6,317,439		11/13/2001	Cardona et al.			
	US 6,587,470		07/01/2003	Elliot et al.			
	US 5,848,065		12/08/1998	Gorshe et al.			
	US 4,967,405		10/30/1990	Upp et al.			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Office	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Kind	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
								YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)

Hiroyuki Fujita et al., "SONET Fiber-Optic Transmission Systems", Hitachi Review, Vol. 44, No. 4, 1995, pps 187-192

Jane M. Simmons et al., "Optical Regional Access Network (ORAN) Project", OFC/IOOC Optical Fiber Communication Conference/International Conference on Integrated Optics and Optical Fiber Communication, 1999, pp. WK1-1 - WK1-3

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